

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough consideration given the subject application. The Final Office Action of April 3, 2003 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed. Claims 1-21 are currently pending in this application.

In the Final Office Action dated April 3, 2003, the drawings are objected to under 37 C.F.R. §1.83(a); the specification is informally objected to for being confusing regarding reference number 1 in the drawings; claims 1-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph for containing subject matter not described in the specification; claims 1-3 and 11-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,015,964 to Janko (hereinafter "Janko"); and claims 4-10 and 20-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Janko.

In the Final Office Action dated April 3, 2003, the drawings are objected to under 37 C.F.R. §1.83(a). The Examiner raises an issue regarding whether an RF interconnect structure including a plurality of pins extending from the flange is shown. In response, the feature in question, as recited in the amended claims, is shown in the corrected drawings, specifically in FIG. 4A and FIG. 7. Claim 1, as amended, recites "a flange [107] connected to the body [101] and having a cavity [108A], wherein the cavity receives a chip carrier [108] ... a plurality of pins [111] extending from the cavity," and "a support member [113] within the body, wherein the support member supports at least one of the pins inside the body." Applicant respectfully submits that the corrected drawings overcome the objection cited by the Examiner.

In the Final Office Action dated April 3, 2003, the specification is informally objected to for being confusing regarding reference number 1 in the drawings. Specifically, the objection

states that reference 1 is used to refer to the body and the connector assembly. In response, both the specification and the drawings, as amended, provide separate references for the connector assembly 100 and the body of the connector 101 of the claimed invention. The reference number 1 is maintained for the discussion of the existing art. Applicant respectfully submits that the amendments to the specification and drawings mitigate the informality objected to by the Examiner.

In the Final Office Action dated April 3, 2003, claims 1-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph for containing subject matter not described in the specification. Specifically, the Examiner cites “an RF interconnect structure including a plurality of pins extending from the flange, which has been neither described in the specification nor shown in the drawing.” In response, claim 1, as amended, recites “a plurality of pins extending from the cavity,” and “a support member within the body, wherein the support member supports at least one of the pins inside the body.” These elements of claim 1 are supported by the specification. Namely, paragraph 14 of the specification teaches “connector assembly for a Radio Frequency (RF) signal path in an electronic circuit, includes: a flange portion having a cavity; a chip carrier formed in the cavity; and a coplanar configuration of a plurality of pins extending from the cavity.” Further, paragraph 56 teaches “[a] support member 113 is preferably provided to prevent the signal pin from moving inside the connector body 101.” Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection is rendered moot by the amendment to claim 1.

In the Final Office Action dated April 3, 2003, claims 1-3 and 11-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Janko. The rejection of claims 1-3 and 11-19 is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested. Independent claim 1, as amended, is allowable over the cited reference in that the claim recites “a body having an inner cylindrical

portion and an outer cylindrical portion.” Nothing in the cited reference, Janko, recites at least this feature of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claim 1, and claims 2-21, which depend from claim 1, are allowable over the cited reference.

In the Final Office Action dated April 3, 2003, claims 4-10 and 20-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Janko. The rejection is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested. Claims 4-10 and 20-21, which depend from claim 1, are allowable over the cited reference in that the claims recite “a body having an inner cylindrical portion and an outer cylindrical portion.” Nothing in the cited reference, Janko, teaches or suggests at least this feature of the claimed invention. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 4-10 and 20-21 are allowable over the cited reference.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue.

Applicant hereby authorizes the Commissioner of Patents to charges any fees necessary to complete this filing, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, or credit any overpayment in fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for the necessary extension of time.

Application No.: 09/990,877

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Docket No.: 9485.003.00-US
PATENT

Dated: September 3, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

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